



Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, February 9, 2023
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Remote Meeting
PRESENT: Rebecca Haifley (*1st District*), Stacie Grijalva (*2nd District*), Fay Levinson (*2nd District*),
Becky Taylor (*3rd District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (*Vice Chair - 4th District*), David Molina
(*Chair - 5th District*), Riley Hartmann (*5th District*)
EXCUSED: John Daugherty (*1st District*), Richard Gubash (*3rd District*)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)
GUESTS: 2 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order
Meeting convened at 12:36 PM.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approve January 12, 2023 Minutes
Motion to Approve Minutes As Written
Motion/Second: Taylor/Levinson
Motion passed unanimously.
5. Public Comment
6. New/Continuing Business:
 - 6.1. Vista Center Title VII Grant Application Support Letter
Commission considered a letter supporting Vista Center's grant application.
Motion to approve the letter of support for Vista Center
Motion/Second: Molina/Haifley
Motion passed unanimously.
 - 6.2. Ad Hoc Subcommittees
Commission made the following changes to their ad hoc subcommittee structure and membership:
 - Public Awareness: Grijalva removed, Taylor added and named Lead
 - Kudos: Gutierrez Baeza named Lead
 - Resource Directory: Subcommittee dissolved
 - Accessibility Awareness: Hartmann appointed and named Lead
 - Legislative: Taylor appointed and Haifley named Lead
 - Housing: Haifley appointed and named Lead. Hartmann and Gubash nominated but not yet appointed
 - Emergency Preparedness & Crisis Response: Taylor removed, Levinson appointed, and Molina named Lead

- Voter Accessibility: Levinson named Lead
- Recreation: Gutierrez Baeza named Lead
- Commission History: Taylor appointed and Daugherty named Lead
- Executive Committee will consider and prioritize opportunities to collaborate with other Commissions

6.3. METRO ParaCruz ADA Complementary Paratransit Service

Commission discussed accessible public transit issues, including accessibility coordinator staffing, failure to prioritize people with disabilities for Paracruz rides during evacuations, scheduling barriers, lack of sufficient room for wheelchairs on METRO buses. Haifley and Grijalva will work with staff to draft an advocacy letter for the Commission to consider.

6.4. Housing Element Community Stakeholder Group

Commission discussed representation on the Housing Element Community Stakeholder Group to advocate for ADA accessibility in housing decisions.

Motion to authorize Haifley and Gubash to represent the Commission in the group.

Motion/Second: Molina/Taylor

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Commission Reports:

7.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report: No Report

8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates:

8.1. Recreation Subcommittee:

Gutierrez-Baeza reported that Shared Adventures is sponsoring swimmers' fees for low-stim swim hours and shared an update on the ParkRx program in which health care providers prescribe parks, nature, and programming to improve health. Currently, Salud Para La Gente providers are participating and Santa Cruz County Park Friends volunteers are working with providers at the new Live Oak Community Health Center to set up a similar arrangement.

8.2. Legislative Subcommittee: No Report

8.3. History Project Report

Staff reported that the research internship has been offered to a candidate, and we are awaiting response.

9. Staff Report:

Staff reported that all County advisory boards will be returning to in-person meeting in March and the Board Chambers has been reserved for the rest of the year to allow for socially-distanced seating. A new County policy will require all Commissioners to take an oath of office and representatives from the CAO's office will attend a future meeting to collect signatures.

10. Emerging Matters: None

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*